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QUERIES AND ANSWERS.

The Quarterly will have, in every issue for which appropriate material is offered, a special department under the above title. Questions concerning Texas history are invited, and it is hoped that those prepared to do so will contribute answers.

Where was General Houston, and what was he doing, in the interval between the adjournment of the San Felipe convention, April, 1833, and the beginning of hostilities with Mexico, October 1st, 1835?

C. W. RAINES.

THE AFFAIRS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

The name of the first life member, Mr. D. M. O'Connor, of Anaqua, Victoria county, has been placed upon the rolls of the Association. In a modest but enthusiastic letter expressing his interest in the objects of the organization, Mr. O'Connor encloses a check for fifty dollars, and adds a promise to give as much or more annually while alive and able. May he live long and be always as rich as he is generous.

Here is an example worthy of imitation. There are many men in Texas of abundant means who are greatly interested in having the materials for the history of the Republic and the State preserved. If these persons only knew how well it is possible to spend money given for the purpose, they would doubtless contribute enough to enable the Association to build up a valuable library at once.

The history of Texas can not be written until the materials are collected, but the work of collection necessarily involves great expense. A large proportion of the documentary sources of Texas history is to be found only in the archives of various cities in Mexico. Copies might be procured, but not without the expenditure of some money. The Department of Insurance, Statistics,

and History has been charged with this duty; but its appropriations have been too small to attempt such work, and hitherto it has done nothing along that line. The Association could secure competent persons to do the copying at relatively small cost. All that is needed in order to begin is the funds.

The people of Texas have been too careless also about the historic materials that lie scattered through the State in private possession. The opportunity to gather and preserve them is being lessened continually by their destruction or loss through accident or neglect. But it costs something to gather them, even when the owners are willing to give them to the Association. Simply to locate them and ascertain their nature is often a matter of extensive correspondence and great trouble. This is most cheerfully undertaken by the Association, but in order to succeed it must have patriotic co-operation throughout the State.

Attention is therefore called to the circulars of inquiry which have been sent out by the Association. These have already elicited some information concerning old letters, papers, etc., which are owned by private parties, and it is hoped that still other replies will come in. The members especially, when they know anything concerning the existence or whereabouts of such matter, should communicate the fact at once to the Librarian.

Exhortation for the purpose of awakening interest in the work of the Association ought to be unnecessary. History like that of Texas is rare. In its color, its dramatic movement, and its instructiveness when viewed from the standpoint of political and social science, it has few parallels. These characteristics make it well worth preservation and study. To the genuine Texan, however, or the man that feel thoroughly identified with the State, one of the strongest motives to the cultivation of the subject will be found in his patriotism. Is it seeming, is it not discreditable to the people of Texas, that they should leave the collection of material for the history of the State to the great endowed North-

ern libraries, so that her own citizens, when they wish to learn of her past, must go to Boston, or New York, or Madison? Shall outsiders be permitted to lead in perpetuating the memory of the patient endurance and heroic deeds of those who builded the Republic? It is to be hoped that the neglect so long shown the graves of Houston and of Rusk will not be reflected in popular forgetfulness or disregard of their public services. Let Texas arouse herself for very shame, and begin at once the discharge of her filial duty.

THE BERNARD DIARY.

Judge C. W. Raines has presented to the Association a scrap-book containing a copy of the diary of Dr. J. H. Bernard, which was printed in installments by *The News,* presumably the *Galveston News.* The diary covers a period from December, 1835, to March 27, 1836, and is one of the sources of our information concerning the Goliad massacre. Bernard was saved by a Mexican officer.

THE SINKS SCRAP-BOOK.

This scrap-book contains a few original letters, which are mostly of recent date; but it has exact copies of several very interesting documents in the John H. Moore papers. Among these are:

A letter from Andrew Ponton, alcalde of Gonzales, to the Committee of safety of Mina (Bastrop), dated September 25, 1835, and stating the fact of his refusal to deliver the cannon to the Mexican authorities on their demand.

An undated letter from D. C. Bassett, chairman Committee of Safety of Gonzales, to Col. John H. Moore, commander of the troops at Gonzales, communicating information of Indian outrages, and resolutions of the Committee to send coffee to the soldiers there, and to summon volunteers to their aid.

A letter from George W. Davis, secretary Committee of Safety of Gonzales, dated Gonzales, September 25, 1835, to Committee of Safety of Mina (Bastrop) and to Col. John H. Moore, asking for help in view of the refusal of the alcalde to surrender the cannon demanded by the Mexican authorities and the consequent danger from the Mexicans.

A letter from Stephen F. Austin to Committee of Safety of Gonzales, dated San Felipe, October 2, 1835, stating that volunteers are gathering to

the help of the people of Gonzales. He says: "I think that Bexar must be cleared of the enemy before the present campaign closes. I expect five hundred men from the *Nacogdoches country.*"

An order of Thos. J. Rusk, Aide-de-Camp, dated Headquarters above San Antonio, November 5, 1835, and addressed to James Bowie, Adjutant General, commanding a general review and inspection of the troops the next morning at sunrise.

A communication from President Lamar to Col. John H. Moore, dated August 31, 1839, authorizing the latter to raise troops for a campaign against the Indians.

The commission (undated) of Col. John H. Moore as commander of volunteers for a campaign against the Indians.

The commission of Col. Moore to effect an exchange of prisoners at the Waco Indian village, dated January 16, 1843.

The act of the Texas Congress providing for the collection and conveying of Indian prisoners to the Waco village, dated January 9, 1843.

A letter from Col. John H. Moore to General Castro, dated September 12, 1840, asking the latter to bring twenty or thirty of his Indians and join the former in an expedition against the Comanches.

Mrs. Sinks' own account of the recovery of the remains of the decimated Mier prisoners, and the Dawson men, and their burial at La Grange in 1848.

A letter from Edward Manton to Mrs. Sinks containing an account of the Dawson fight, in which he took part.

Some interesting recollections of early days in Texas, told by old settlers.

Several of the narratives are illustrated with drawings by Mrs. Sinks.

THE WILSON SCRAP-BOOK.

The more interesting and valuable contents of the Wilson Scrap-Book are as follows:

The commission of Wm. F. Wilson as quartermaster of the second regiment, second brigade Texas Militia, dated Washington, Texas, June 20th, 1843, and signed by Sam Houston.

Mrs. Wilson's certificate of membership in the Texas Veteran Association, signed by Moses Austin Bryan.

A collection of badges, five in number, worn at reunions of the veterans between 1879 and 1889.

The commission of W. F. Wilson as sheriff of Galveston county, dated Houston, July 10, 1838, and signed by Sam Houston.

A call by W. F. Wilson for volunteers to form a company of rangers which he was organizing to enter the Confederate service, and a list, dated Winchester, Va., July 5, 1861, of those agreeing to join.

The commission of W. F. Wilson as captain in the Virginia volunteers, dated May 8, 1861, and signed by Gov. John Letcher.

A Confederate States 6 per cent bond for $100.

The passport of W. F. Wilson from Castle Perote, in Mexico, to Vera Cruz, dated August 25, 1844.

Three letters written by W. F. Wilson, one dated Headquarters Texas Army, May 16, 1837; another, Castle Perote, April 22, 1844; and the third, New Orleans, October 10, 1844.

A letter from Col. John C. ("Jack") Hays, dated Oakland, May 21, 1877.

A letter from Jefferson Davis, dated Mississippi City P. O., August 10, 1877.

The muster roll of the Galveston Volunteers, William F. Wilson, Captain, dated September 8, 1839.

A letter from G. Clinton Frailey, Commissary Subsistence, Texas Army, dated Texana, July 8, 1837.

The commission of William F. Wilson as Indian agent at the Omaha Agency, dated June 5, 1858, and signed by President Buchanan.

A pamphlet of twelve pages containing the reminiscences of Mrs. Wilson.

A considerable number of clippings from old newspapers relative to various subjects.

THE JONES COLLECTION.

The relics in this collection were enumerated in the last issue of the Quarterly. The collection, however, contains a real treasure in a miscellaneous lot of old newspapers printed between 1846 and 1857. As will be seen from the list given below, there is no series among them, and not more than two consecutive issues of the same paper; but the various numbers were selected with reference to their historical importance, and each contains something of great value, as a letter from Houston, or Rusk, or Jones, or other matter of the kind. This number of the Quarterly contains a letter from Houston on the subject of Annexation, which is reprinted from one of the papers.

This gift was obtained through the kind offices of Mrs. Dora Fowler Arthur, Secretary William B. Travis Chapter, Daughters of the Republic.

The list is as follows:

The New York Weekly Globe of March 15, 1851.

The Galveston Weekly News of September 15, 1857.

Five numbers of The Texas Ranger (Old Washington), dated respect-

ively January 16, 1849; March 9, 1849; October 8, 1851; August 23, 1856; August 29, 1857.

Six numbers of The Civilian and Galveston Gazette, with the respective dates: August 14, 1847; November 6, 1847; December 18, 1847; August 17, 1848; December 7, 1848; May 31, 1849.

The Southwestern American (Austin) of February 4, 1850.

The Weekly Dollar Democrat (published at Louisville, Ky.) of September 22, 1855.

Two numbers of The Western Texian (San Antonio), with the respective dates December 29, 1848, and January 12, 1849.

The Lavaca Journal of January 14, 1848.

The Henderson Democrat, June 27, 1857.

Three numbers of The Weekly Union (Washington, D. C.), dated respectively July 14, 1849; December 17, 1849; March 15, 1851.

Two sheets of different numbers of the same, the one issued about June, 1847, and the other about November, 1849.

Two numbers of The Tri-Weekly Union, the one dated March 17, 1846, and the other December 29, 1846.

The Texas Republican (Marshall) of June 29, 1849.

Two numbers of The Texas Banner (Huntsville), one dated October 21, 1847, the other May 26, 1849.

Four numbers of The Texas Democrat (Austin), all belonging to the year 1846, and dated respectively January 21, January 28, March 11, and December 16.

Two numbers of The Weekly National Intelligencer (Washington, D. C.), one of May 18, 1844, the other of May 5, 1849.

The daily issue of the same for December 25, 1846.

Two numbers of The Mississippian (Jackson), one of October 6, 1848, and the other of March 9, 1849.

The Semi-Weekly Star (Washington, Texas) of July 11, 1850.

The Lone Star and Southern Watch Tower (Washington, Texas) of April 5, 1851.

AMENDMENT TO THE CONSTITUTION.

The amendment to the constitution of the Association proposed by the Executive Council at the June meeting has received the affirmative votes of more than two-thirds of the membership, and has therefore become effective. This amendment makes the Professor of History in the University of Texas *ex officio* Librarian and Recording Secretary, and changes the title of the Secretary and Treasurer as originally fixed to Corresponding Secretary and Treasurer.

A LIST OF THE MEMBERS OF THE ASSOCIATION.

I. Honorary Life Members.

The Constitution of the Association provides that "Persons who rendered eminent service to Texas previous to Annexation may become Honorary Life Members upon being recommended by the Executive Council and elected by the Association." At the meeting on June 17, 1897, all persons who participated in the battle of San Jacinto, or in previous campaigns during the Texas Revolution, were made Honorary Life Members. A few additional names were also put on the list by special vote. The list given below is incomplete. Corrections, additions, etc., should be sent to the Corresponding Secretary. Honorary Life Members receive all publications free; they pay no dues.

Ex-Gov. P. H. Bell ..... ——————, S. C.
Jackson Berry, Esq. ..... Callahan County.
S. R. Bostic, Esq. ..... San Saba.
Mrs. Andrew Briscoe ..... Houston.
Hon. Guy M. Bryan ..... Quintana.
Joel Bryan, Esq. ..... Velasco.
Col. John S. Ford ..... San Antonio.
Joseph Highland, Esq. ..... Leander.
J. M. Hill, Esq. ..... Austin.
Mrs. Anson Jones ..... Houston.
John Karner, Esq. ..... Limestone County.
Alfred Kelso, Esq. ..... Gallinas.
Nat Mitchell, Esq. ..... San Antonio.
George Petty, Esq. ..... Brenham.
Robert Price, Esq. ..... Johnson City.
Hon. John H. Reagan ..... Palestine.
Ex-Gov. O. M. Roberts ..... Austin.
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J. F. Sparks, Esq. ..... Rockport.
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John Tom, Esq. ..... Leakey.

J. W. Winters, Esq. ..... Big Foot.
Capt. W. P. Zuber ..... Iola.

II. Fellows.

The Constitution of the Association provides that "Members who show, by published work, special aptitude for historical investigation may become Fellows. * * * The number of Fellows shall never exceed fifty." The dues are five dollars per year:

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William Corner, Esq. ..... San Antonio.
Prof. H. F. Estill ..... Huntsville.
Col. John S. Ford ..... San Antonio.
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Prof. George P. Garrison ..... Austin.
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Prof. Allen J. Smith ..... Galveston.
Dr. Matthew M. Smith ..... Austin.
Noah Smithwick, Esq. ..... Santa Ana, Cal.
Dr. R. K. Smoot ..... Austin.

Samuel Spears, Esq. ..... Austin.
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Maj. Frank M. Spencer ..... Galveston.
Dr. John V. Spring ..... San Antonio.
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T. H. Stone, Esq. ..... Houston.
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Mrs. William H. Stratton ..... Cleburne.
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Mrs. Bride Neill Taylor ..... Austin.
Mrs. Kate S. Terrell ..... Dallas.
Capt. T. C. Thomson ..... Wichita Falls.
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A. S. Thweatt, Esq. ..... Austin.
H. R. Von Bieberstein, Esq. ..... Brenham.
D. A. T. Walton, Esq. ..... Marathon.
A. B. Watkins, Esq. ..... Athens.
Frank H. Welch, Esq. ..... Taylor.
Duval West, Esq. ..... San Antonio.
Miss Elizabeth H. West ..... Bryan.
F. T. West, Esq. ..... Battle.
Dabney White, Esq. ..... Tyler.
Miss Hattie V. Whitten ..... Tyler.
A. H. Wilkins, Esq. ..... Dallas.
A. E. Wilkinson, Esq. ..... Austin.
L. S. Williams, Esq. ..... Giddings.
J. Mason Williams, Esq. ..... San Antonio.
Judge H. H. Willie ..... Galveston.
Mrs. H. S. Wilson ..... Cleburne.
R. E. Wilson, Esq. ..... Gainesville.
President George T. Winston ..... Austin.
W. F. Woods, Esq. ..... San Antonio.

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Dr. Joe S. Wooten ..... Austin.
Dr. Thomas D. Wooten ..... Austin.
Hon. W. B. Wortham ..... Austin.
Hon. R. M. Wynne ..... Fort Worth.
Gen. William H. Young ..... San Antonio.
Miss Adina de Zavala ..... San Antonio.
Miss Mary de Zavala ..... San Antonio.